



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Funds Awarded to Perform Site Investigation at Seven Brownfield Sites

SACRAMENTO --- The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced today that grants to perform site investigation work have been awarded to seven Brownfield redevelopment projects throughout California. The grants are part of the Targeted Site Investigation (TSI) program that provides front-end site investigation work at contaminated properties.

“Returning Brownfield sites to productive use is an integral part of the Governor’s Environmental Action Plan,” said B.B. Blevins, DTSC Director. “These grants will help several cities across the State begin the process of returning these sites to economic vitality.”

The TSI program, which is performed by DTSC in collaboration with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, is funded by a Brownfields grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. TSI program grants are available to government agencies and non-profit organizations with specific projects that involve redevelopment of potentially contaminated properties. The site investigation activities offered through the program help further characterize contamination at potential development sites and reduce uncertainty over the type and extent of the contamination.

The seven grants were awarded to:

- City of Antioch – Proposed mixed-use development is part of the Antioch Waterfront Plan which is focused on revitalizing the downtown area of the City of Antioch. The land was formerly the site of a radiator shop and an auto repair shop. Testing shows the site contains high levels of lead. TSI services in the amount of \$70,000 will help determine the extent of the contamination.
- City of Fairfield – The City of Fairfield envisions creating a “walkable” community for City residents on the site of a former service station where there are concerns over contamination of both soil and groundwater. The \$50,000 in TSI services will provide significant information regarding petroleum contamination, not only at this site, but also at an adjacent former automobile dealership site.

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- City of Redding – The City of Redding hopes to transform this former Greyhound passenger terminal and maintenance facility in the City's downtown area into a mixed-use facility. It is hoped that the new development will provide housing, new jobs and tax revenue. Greyhound used four underground diesel storage tanks at the facility while it was in operation and this has generated concern over soil contamination and the accompanying health risks. Up to \$25,000 in TSI services will be provided to resolve contamination issues at this site.
- City of Duarte – TSI services in the amount of \$40,000 will support testing needed to determine reuse options at this site. City of Duarte leaders ultimately hope that environmental development clearance for this half-acre abandoned gas station site will further the City's plans for downtown redevelopment.
- City of Lynwood – Part of a 10 acre area known as the Alameda Triangle, this site has both documented and perceived problems ranging from unauthorized dumping to soil and groundwater contamination due to past manufacturing processes. TSI services in the amount of \$45,000 will be instrumental in determining the extent of contamination. Plans for reuse are to transform this blighted area into much needed affordable housing, create jobs and boost commercial and economic activity.
- City of Pacoima – Redevelopment in this Los Angeles Federal Empowerment Zone and Targeted Neighborhood has been put on hold due to concern over petroleum and heavy metal wastes contamination. The site was once used as a gas station and muffler and radiator shop. TSI services in the amount of \$70,000 will provide valuable information that will assist the City of Pacoima in making reuse decisions for the site. The community is seeking the economic opportunities that development of this site could bring in an area of high unemployment.
- City of San Diego – This site has been the location of the San Diego Unified School District's storage yard, warehouse and maintenance facility. The currently vacant site is unsightly and attracts vagrants. Proposed development consists of mixed-use retail, commercial, daycare and rental units that are geared toward low income and the elderly. TSI services in the amount of \$50,000 will help assess the extent of contamination at this site whose proposed redevelopment will provide income to the City of San Diego and remove blight that deteriorates property value in the community.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.